

# Hawaii MARINE

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# Lava Dogs take reins



Lance Cpl. Stephen Kwietniak

Marines pass through range 410-A via convoy at Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center, Twentynine Palms, Calif. Last year, 1st Battalion, 3rd Regiment Marines underwent convoy training in this same Convoy Operations Course as part of Mojave Viper. The training 1/3 received at Twentynine Palms and in Bridgeport, Calif., provided the skills they need for their current deployment to Afghanistan.

**Sgt. Joe Lindsay**  
*Combat Correspondent*

**JALALABAD, Afghanistan** – 1st Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment took the reigns of both battlefield and humanitarian responsibility in Afghanistan from their brother battalion – 2nd Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment – in a Relief in Place and Transfer of Authority ceremony held Sunday aboard Jalalabad Airfield.

The ceremony culminated 2/3's seven-month tour of duty in country and featured the Island Warriors casing their colors followed by the Lava Dogs unfurling theirs.

"For seven months 2/3 conducted a range of operations here," said Lt. Col. James Donnellan, 2/3 commanding officer, as he addressed an audience of Marines, Sailors, soldiers, and distinguished members of the Afghan National Army and Afghan National Police. "The op (operations) tempo has been very high and very demanding for the Marines. I am exceptionally proud of the job they did during our time here."

Donnellan also pointed out that the success of their deployment would not have been possible without the outstanding support from

the ANA and ANP.

"I learned that we would not be able to do this without the support of our Afghan counterparts," commented Donnellan. "It really hit home on one particular occasion when we were moving down a valley and it was an ANA soldier who identified an IED (improvised explosive device) buried in the road we were traveling on that was prepared to do some serious damage to either our convoy or the Marines and ANA soldiers that were moving down that road."

"That incident really hit home for me and really cemented what we'd already been told and already put in place — which was, we were going to do everything side by side with our Afghan counterparts and on every operation that the battalion conducted that's the way it was executed."

Before passing the torch to 1/3 Commanding Officer, Lt. Col. James Bierman, Donnellan added, "We've learned joint operations with the Afghans are absolutely essential. The Afghans are truly partners with us. I know, over the course of 1/3's time here, you will see incremental changes each day, but when you look back, just as we have, you'll be

amazed at how much it is changing here for the better."

Following Donnellan's parting words and a loud thundering of applause in appreciation for a job well done, Bierman took center stage. All eyes then seemingly shifted in unison and fell upon the man who now leads the Marine Corps' efforts in Operation Enduring Freedom.

"This day belongs to the fine fighting Marines and Sailors of 2nd Battalion, 3rd Marines, and to all of our Afghan allies who have served with them," began Bierman, a graduate of the Virginia Military Institute. "The many accomplishments of the past seven months have occurred for three reasons: First, because the Marines and Sailors of 2/3 have formed a relationship with the Afghan people. Second, because in every operation they've worked hand-in-hand with the Afghan military, with the local leaders, and with the other U.S. military and organizations. And finally, because in their every action and every word, they have shown respect to the people and the culture of Afghanistan."

Bierman continued, reiterating that this

policy would not change under his watch.

"The Marines of 1/3 arrive just as committed to a better, greater Afghanistan as the Marines of 2/3 were. We look forward to working with our Afghan allies and friends toward the realization of that goal. Together, there is no obstacle or enemy that can stand in our way."

In conclusion, Bierman had some parting words for 2/3.

"To the Marines of 2/3 – well done," said Bierman. "The best wishes of everyone in 1/3 go with you as you return to your families in America. Know that your work here will continue."

Then, in perhaps the most poignant moment of the RIP-TOA ceremony, Bierman turned to the Afghan interpreter and explained, "The motto of the Marine Corps is Semper Fidelis, which is Latin for 'Always Faithful.'" Following the translation, Bierman turned to the Marines of 2/3 and ended with the words, equally powerful and all encompassing – "Semper Fidelis."

## 2/3 Marines Continue their return home



Lance Cpl. Roger L. Nelson

The third wave of Marines and Sailors deployed to Jalalabad, Afghanistan, with 2nd battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment, in support of Operation Enduring Freedom, returned early Jan. 15. Two more waves are scheduled to return throughout the week.

## K-Bay honors MLK Day



Lance Cpl. Roger L. Nelson

Retired Marine Corps Maj. Gen. Charles F. Bolden Jr. spoke at the Martin Luther King, Jr. breakfast, Jan. 17, at Anderson Hall Dining Facility aboard Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay. Bolden explained the significance of the letter from Birmingham Jail written by King on April 16, 1963. "The message that Mr. King left with us is what's important, not where he would be today if he were still alive," said Bolden. He also gave thanks to all military personnel serving their country around the world.



# NEWS BRIEFS

## Honoring the Fallen

A Service of Remembrance to honor the fallen Marines of 2nd Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment, who lost their lives during the unit's deployment to Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom, will be held at the Pacific War Memorial, Jan. 30 at 1 p.m. The service is a tribute to Lance Corporals. Kevin Joyce, Phillip George, and Steven Valdez. Also included in this tribute is Lance Cpl. Ryan Nass.

The Marines of 2/3 performed security and stability operations in order to support self-government and create the conditions for successful parliamentary elections through combined operations with the Afghan National Army and Police, the Government of Afghanistan, and all coalition partners in their area of operations.

In the event of inclement weather, the ceremony will be held at the Base Theater.

## Base Pool Closed for Improvements

The Kaneohe Base Pool will be closed for improvements until March. The Officers' Club, Camp Smith and Manana Housing pools are still open during regular business hours.

For more information, call 254-7655.

## Survey Participation Requested

The Department of Defense Inspector General is conducting a Trafficking in Persons survey through March 31. They are requesting maximum participation from all active duty service members, civilian Marines and contractors. We encourage all to log on and take the first part of the survey, which contains 22 questions that should take only a few minutes to complete.

To access the survey, log on to [www.dodig.mil/tip%20survey/survey.htm](http://www.dodig.mil/tip%20survey/survey.htm). A password is not required.

## Gas Lane Closures

A gas station canopy project has been underway since Nov. 7 and is slated to take six to seven months to complete, after construction begins. The canopy will be built in phases, which means that half of the gasoline pumps will be unavailable for consumer use at any given time.

For questions concerning this project, call George Kelsey, MCCS, 254-7689 or Ken Takeya, MCCS, 254-7539.

## Volunteers Needed for Survey

Survey takers are needed for the 2006 Sea Services Women's Leadership Symposium, to be held March 21, aboard Marine Corps Base Hawaii. Survey takers can go to [www.surveymonkey.com/s.asp?u=725521377979](http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.asp?u=725521377979) or <http://tinyurl.com/araat> to take the survey.

Volunteer opportunities exist.

For more information, contact Lt. Cmdr. Desarae Janszen at 541-2125, or by e-mail at [djanszen@d14.uscg.mil](mailto:djanszen@d14.uscg.mil); or Master Sgt. Milton White, MCB Hawaii equal opportunity advisor, at 257-7720, or [milton.d.white@usmc.mil](mailto:milton.d.white@usmc.mil).

## Hawaii Marine Accepts Letters

The Hawaii Marine welcomes comments for the "Letters to the Editor" section. Letters should be clear and concise. The Hawaii Marine staff reserves the right to edit letters for clarity and length. Comments must be signed with a full name and a telephone number must be provided.

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Letters to the Editor

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On-Base Emergencies911

Military Police257-7114

Child Protective Service832-5300

Fraud, Waste, Abuse & EEO257-8852

Business Management Hotline257-3188

Pothole & Streetlight Repair257-2380

Base Information449-7110

# Space Camp Scholarships available for Military Children

## Press Release

Marine Corps Community Services

**MCB QUANTICO, VA** – Applications are being accepted for the 2006 Bernard Curtis Brown II Memorial NASA Space Camp Scholarship.

Children of active duty service members, in grades six through nine, can apply for the scholarship which was created by the Military Child Education Coalition in memory of Bernard Curtis Brown II, the 11-year-old son of Chief Petty Officer and Mrs. Bernard Curtis Brown, who was killed on Sept. 11, 2001, when the hijacked airliner he was in crashed into the Pentagon.

Located in Huntsville, Ala., Space Camp offers a unique, hands-on approach to learning outside the classroom. Activities include simulated space shuttle missions, training simulators, rocket building and launches, scientific experiments, and lectures on the past, present and future of space exploration.

The scholarship covers tuition, meals, lodging, program materials, and transportation for a five-day program. To apply, students must submit a scholarship application along with a handwritten essay that explains why they should be selected and two letters of recommendation from someone other than a relative. Those applying should ensure that their essays include details of patriotism, community service, future goals and "after camp" intentions.

The 2006 Bernard Curtis Brown II Memorial NASA Space Camp Scholarship application can be found by visiting the Military Child Education Web site at <http://www.militarychild.org/Scholarship.asp>

The deadline for submission of applications, handwritten essays, and letters of recommendations is April 3. Completed applications should be sent to:

Military Child Education Coalition

108 East FM 2410, Suite D

Harker Heights, TX 76548

For more information, contact Kathleen Facon, program specialist, Children, Youth and Teen Programs (MRZ-3) at 703-784-9553 or [kathleen.facon@usmc.mil](mailto:kathleen.facon@usmc.mil).



Cpl. Michelle M. Dickson

**Petty Officer 1st Class Rick Grant, aviation electrician, VP-4, reunites with his wife Angie and two sons Ricky, 3, and Jake, 5. Children in grades six to nine can apply for the scholarship.**

# DTS to help with TAD travel

**Lance Cpl. Edward C. deBree**

Combat Correspondent

Tired of going through mountains of paper work for temporary assigned duties and going through the hassle of finding the office in order to get a travel voucher? Now, those who use the Defense Travel System no longer have to deal with these hassles.

"With DTS, travelers will no longer have to leave their desk to file a settlement with disbursing," said Rene Guerrero, lead defense travel administrator. "They can just sit at their desk and take care of everything by themselves, via the Web site."

DTS automates the three Department of Defense travel processes to include authorization, reservation and voucher filing. According to [dtstravelcenter.dod.mil](http://dtstravelcenter.dod.mil), service members are able to generate travel authorizations, make trip reservations, and route travel requests for approval – all from their desktop.

According to Guerrero, DTS is scheduled for implementation March 20, and is supposed to be in fully effect,

DoD-wide, within the year.

"This system allows travelers to log on and personally select the flights, lodging and rental cars they need," she said. "The system will then calculate the cost. The only requirement to access the system is the common access card with a current 'PIN.'"

DTS is similar to Web sites such as Expedia and Orbitz. It can be viewed as being the government's version of those Web sites.

Although Guerrero said that getting used to working with the system will be rough in the beginning, the 40-year-old Austin, Texas native said the system will benefit everyone.

"I think that once the system is up and running and everybody knows to use it, DTS will save a lot of time for everybody," she said. "Everything can be done on the Web site and it will make it easier for people to make their trips and travel claims. Overall, the system will work out well and be good for everybody."

For more information on the Defense Travel System log onto <http://www.dtstravelcenter.dod.mil>

# Tax Center files taxes for free

## Capt. Adam Snow

MCBH OIC Tax Center

Happy New Year! To get your year off to a great start, take advantage of the FREE services the tax center has to offer you. Right now, the Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, Tax Center is getting geared up to serve you. The tax center provides free electronic tax preparation and filing services.

The tax center will open Jan. 25 and stay open through April to assist you with all of your tax filing needs.

Last year, the Tax Center electronically filed more than 8,000 federal and state returns free of charge. This service facilitated the refund of more than \$6 million to Marines, Sailors, retirees and family members. The total value of these services last year was \$900,000 plus.

Services at the Tax Center are free and you can file federal and most state taxes can be filed electronically. You can expect to get your tax refund within seven to 14 days, deposited directly into your banking account, free of charge.

Electronic filing also reduces the rate of errors in tax preparation from 15 percent to less than 1 percent. This means your tax returns are getting done right the first time around. If we cannot file your return electronically, there are paper state and federal tax forms available.

All active duty and family members are welcome at the Tax Center. Retirees and their family members are also welcome. Reserve military on active duty for more than 30 days, along with their family members, can also use these valuable services.

The Tax Center welcomes walk-ins during office hours. The office hours are Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., and Wednesday from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. The Tax Center can also make individual and unit appointments. Call the Tax Center clerk at 257-1399 or 257-1534 for details after Jan. 25.

The Tax Center is located in Building 401, right across from the playground and skate park. Before coming in, you should bring all relevant information, including last year's returns, income statements (W-2, 1099, interest paid on bank accounts, etc.), credit information (child care, etc), and bank account number, including the routing number. Also, remember to bring your military identification card.



Lance Cpl. Roger L. Nelson

# K-Bay first stop on 5 day staff delegation tour

Navy Lt. Chris Turl, pilot, Helicopter Anti-Submarine Squadron Light 37, provides a visiting staff delegation with a briefing on the missions of the squadron's helicopters. The purpose of the visit to Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, by 12 House staffers was to familiarize them with the base, its personnel, equipment and missions. The delegation is in Hawaii where staffers will visit all military installations during their five-day tour. The staff delegation's visit to K-Bay was the first stop.

# Weekend weather outlook

## Today



**Day** — Partly to mostly cloudy skies with scattered rain showers. Southwest winds 10 to 15 mph.

**Night** — Mostly cloudy with continued rain showers. West winds 8 to 10 mph.

**High** — 77  
**Low** — 67

## Saturday



**Day** — Partly cloudy with isolated rain showers. Northeast winds calm. Chance of rain 5 percent.

**Night** — Partly cloudy with isolated rain showers. East winds 6 to 10 mph.

**High** — 77  
**Low** — 67

## Sunday



**Day** — Partly cloudy with isolated rain showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph. Chance of rain 20 percent.

**Night** — Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph. Chance of rain 20 percent.

**High** — 75  
**Low** — 67

# Hawaii MARINE

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Marines of 3rd Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment, fire a 50-caliber machine gun from the top of a Humvee during a live-fire shoot, Jan. 16, as part of the Hawaii Combined Arms Exercise at the Pohakuloa Training Area on the island of Hawaii. Mortarmen of America's Battalion honed their skills with mortars and machine guns. This HCAX is the last training evolution for the unit before heading back to the Middle East. During 2005, Marines and Sailors of 3/3 participated in Operation Enduring Freedom.

# OEF veterans train for upcoming Iraq tour



Mortarmen of India Company, 3rd Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment, set up an 81-mm mortar tube during a fire and support exercise, Jan. 14, at the Pohakuloa Training Area. Marines of Lima Company trained the Marines of India company in firing the 81 mm mortar during a current Hawaii Combined Arms Exercise on the Big Island.



Marines of Combat Service Support Group 3 practice preparing for enemy contact from a convoy, Jan. 15, as part of the Hawaii Combined Arms Training at the Pohakuloa Training Area on the island of Hawaii. The Marines conducted a live-fire run Jan. 17. The training was conducted to prepare Marines for their deployment to Iraq.

**Compiled by PAO**  
*Photos by Lance Cpl. Edward C. deBree*

**POHAKULOA TRAINING AREA, HAWAII** – With the capability to reach out and touch the enemy from an approximate distance of three and one — half miles, U.S. Marine Corps mortarmen have the power to support riflemen with fire from the sky.

In preparation for their upcoming deployment to Iraq, members from 3rd Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment, trained to enhance their firing skills on the 81-mm mortar while conducting a fire and support exercise during the Hawaii Combined Arms Exercise on the Big Island.

“The 60-mm mortar is their primary weapon,” said Staff Sgt. Timothy P. Ledbeter, a

mortarman section leader with Lima Company. “A lot of them haven’t trained on the 81 since School of Infantry. The purpose of this exercise is to enhance the mortarmen’s skills for their job.”

Fighting the harsh winds while on the Big Island, the Marines received coordinates and fired rounds during the exercise.

“Lima Company will be here the whole time conducting the company exercises,” said Ledbeter. “They will be continuously training until each company has gone through the exercise.”

They also polished their skills with machine guns.

“Things are going well for these guys,” said Sgt. Ron Tinsley, 33, Chicago Ill. Native squad leader, Weapons Company. “They’ve learned to master the weapon in a

very short amount of time. Some of these guys are in machine gunner billets. It’s important for them to get familiarized with all weapons before going to combat. These guys came out of school as mortarmen, but even then they are prepared to use both machine guns and mortars to get the mission accomplished. That’s the great thing about the Marine Corps — it’s flexible in training someone with two different things.”

This is the last training exercise that the Marines will go through before heading out to Iraq.

“I think that these guys will do very well over there,” said Tinsley. “They’re doing great here and performance isn’t going to change because the location changes. If they are doing great here, then they will be awesome in Iraq.”



Marines of Combat Service Support Group 3 played a big role in supporting 3rd Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment, during a current Hawaii Cobined Arms Exercercise.



# On the skyline ... with 1/3

On the Skyline is a weekly column written by Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, Combat Correspondent Sgt. Joe Lindsay who is currently deployed to Afghanistan with the 1st Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment, Lava Dogs in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

# Like father, like son

**Sgt. Joe Lindsay**  
combat correspondent

**JALALABAD, Afghanistan** — One would likely be hard pressed to find a parent back home who wasn’t equally proud – and worried – about their son or daughter serving overseas in a combat zone in support of Operation Enduring Freedom or Operation Iraq Freedom. Most rely on e-mail, letters, or the occasional phone call from their offspring to put them at ease and to assure them that their children are safe and everything is okay.

For one parent, however, those methods just won’t cut it any more. That’s because Army Staff Sgt. Larrie Ericson, a 36-year veteran of the Oregon National Guard who is assigned to the 1042nd Medevac Company, which is based in his hometown of Salem, Ore., is serving alongside his Marine son on the same base, Jalalabad Airfield in Afghanistan.

“When I first found out 1/3 (1st Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment, based at Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay) was going to Afghanistan, my dad already knew he was deploying there, so I said to him, ‘Hey, we might run into each other,’ not really thinking it would actually ever happen,” admitted Lance Cpl. Michael Ericson, a 1/3 assaultman with Weapons Company, Combined Anti-Armor Team 1.

“Then, by chance, my unit ended up at Bagram briefly while he was running missions there on his rotation,” recalled the younger Ericson, a native of Larkspur, Colo., who still carries the chiseled frame he punished opposing players with during his high school football playing days at Douglas County High School in Castle Rock, Colo.

“My dad has been in the Guard awhile,” he added, chuckling, “so a lot of the people in his unit I’ve known since I was a little kid. I went down to his unit and they said they’d have him there in half an hour. I went to go grab some chow real quick, but before I could, I got the word from one of my sergeants that my dad was headed down to meet me at the chow hall. At that moment, I glanced up the street and saw him walking toward me. I took off running towards him, just then he crossed an intersection and didn’t see me, so I ran up behind him and bear hugged him and picked him up off the ground.”

For both father and son, the greeting couldn’t have been more fitting.

“I live in Oregon and my son grew up in Colorado, but despite the miles between us, we’ve always been as close as a father and son could be,” said the elder Ericson, a Blackhawk crew chief in the 1042nd who also works full time as a civilian technician, employed as a Blackhawk mechanic with the Oregon National Guard. “It’s just amazing that we are together here – so far from our homes.”

When the elder Ericson’s command found out his son would be serving at JAF, they saw to it that the two could be stationed together.

“We are on a rotation, meaning we work a few weeks here, a few weeks there, and few weeks somewhere else,” explained the elder Ericson. “My command told me, ‘If you want to

stay in JAF for the duration, you can stay there.’ I told them how much that would be appreciated. I’m very thankful to them for that.”

The elder Ericson also has dealt with the 1/3 command before, though under different circumstances.

“Just as my son finished CAX (Combined Arms Exercise) last October at Twenynine Palms in California and was boarding a plane back to Hawaii, we found out that my father, a World War II veteran, had passed away. By the time my son landed at the airport in Hawaii, the 1/3 command had already drawn up his leave papers, got him checked out, and had him back on a plane to Oregon within hours. The leadership at 1/3 went out of their way to help our family during that difficult time. It is something my family and I will always appreciate and will never forget. My son is with a class outfit of Marines at 1/3. They take care of each other not only on the battlefield, but off it as well.”

Both father and son know the hardships that being in the military can sometimes bring. The elder Ericson has served previously in Bosnia, Kuwait and Iraq, while his son was on the front lines in Fallujah in 2004.

Additionally, according to the elder Ericson, the 1042nd is very active back in the States.

“We don’t just train back home, we do actual missions,” he explained. “We rescue climbers trapped on mountains or people stuck in rivers, not just in Oregon but all the way from Washington to Northern California. I know what it’s like to see danger; to see death.”

“Whether it was in Bosnia, Iraq or now Afghanistan, our job is to get to wounded service members and medevac them somewhere where they can receive proper medical attention,” added the 55-year old Ericson. “When I say that I’m proud of my son, you know that I am because I know what he does very intimately. My biggest fear – I know in my heart it is not going to happen – but my biggest fear is that I’ll get a call to pick up a wounded Marine and it will be my son.”

Still, the elder Ericson said that he’s not too worried, because of something he calls, “Ericson luck.”

“My father fought in World War II in Europe and came out without a scratch, and I’ve been in a few tight situations myself without a scratch. My son will do the same thing.”

For his part, the younger Ericson said the most important thing he learned serving in combat in Iraq was to be calm, stay cool.

“You’ve got to keep your head at all times – even when rounds are coming in on you, and let the Marine Corps training kick in,” he said, repeating his mantra, “be calm, stay cool.”

That type of battlefield presence

under pressure has not gone unnoticed by those who serve with Ericson.

“Lance Corporal Ericson is the type of Marine who looks out for everybody,” said Cpl. Emilio Diaz Jr., a 1/3 machinegunner with Weapons Company, CAAT 1. “He’s the type of Marine you want with you in combat.”

Diaz also remarked that seeing Ericson with his father made everyone in CAAT 1 feel good.

“You can tell they’re both just really happy when they’re with each other,” said Diaz, a Brownsville, Texas native who received the Purple Heart for wounds he sustained while serving with Ericson and 1/3 in Iraq. “I mean, who wouldn’t be psyched to be with their dad in Afghanistan? It’s awesome. Everyone in CAAT 1 is happy for them.”

Staff Sgt. Douglas Derring, a 1/3 infantry platoon sergeant with Weapons Company, CAAT 1, said he couldn’t agree more.

“It’s pretty amazing that they are here together,” said Derring, a native of Virginia Beach, Va. “A lot of people get deployed, and



they get kind of down because they are missing their families, and then Lance Corporal Ericson shows up in Afghanistan and his dad is here. They really lucked out.”

Derring is also was quick to add that Ericson is one of his go-to guys. “He’s an expert in his field. He’s a tough Marine.”

According to Sgt. Luis Maceira, a 1/3 anti-tank assaultman with Weapons Company, CAAT 1, it brings a smile to the faces of the other Marines when they see the Ericsons together.

“They are both walking around a little prouder, a little taller, and they should be,” said the Humacao, Puerto Rico native. “I know Lance Corporal Ericson is proud of his dad. His dad is doing the same thing we are, out here supporting Operation Enduring Freedom. We all got to meet his dad. It was pretty exciting. It’s a morale boost for all of us in 1/3.”



Lance Cpl. Stephen Kwietniak

Lance Cpl. Michael Ericson, an assaultman with 1/3, Weapons Company, Combined Anti-Armor Team 1, stands next to his father, Army Staff Sgt. Larrie Ericson, a Blackhawk crew chief with the 1042nd Medevac Company, Oregon National Guard, aboard Jalalabad Airfield in Afghanistan. Father and son are both presently serving at JAF in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

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Lance Cpl. Roger L. Nelson

Bryan Miller, program coordinator, Hawaii Troops to Teachers, explains to Cpl. James C. Sciarpetletti, communications, Headquarters Battalion, MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, what is needed to become a teacher once his term of service is up. Miller meets Marines, Sailors, and family members at the Joint Education Center weekly for TTT information lessons.

## Troops to teachers can provide another option

**Lance Cpl. Roger L. Nelson**  
*Combat Correspondent*

Once a Marine has decided his time has come to leave the Corps, a world of opportunities awaits him for a career. Some say that with the skills and responsibilities taught throughout an enlistment, a Marine should be armed to do almost anything he desires – especially teaching. Bryan Miller, program coordinator, Hawaii Troops to Teachers, explained the need for teachers is always great, and a person with prior military experience is ideal for the job.

The Troops to Teachers program was originated in 1994 in order to help supply high-need schools with teachers, and to help former military personnel reach their goal of education. The program holds information lectures every Wednesday at the Joint Education Center, aboard Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, starting from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. In order to qualify for the Troop to Teachers program, a service member must have at least six years active duty service or 10 years of reserve duty. Service members must also have a bachelor's degree in their field of choice. After a person has received the TTT benefits, they must serve in a high-need or low-income school for three years, said Miller, a Honolulu resident. "It is a fact that 50 percent of teachers who are straight out of college quit teaching after three years," said Miller. "But 75 percent of teachers who are prior service are still teaching after 10 years." Military members usually

have a unique teaching style, which makes learning more fun for the students, said Miller. "Once a Marine is one year away from the date their enlistment is up, then they can apply for the TTT program," said Miller. "It's important that they do this so they have time to find a job and begin substituting, which I highly recommend the person do, so they know what area and grade they would prefer to teach." Miller said there is also a "Spouses to Teacher" program, which was created in order to help enlisted personnel's spouses pay for their testing to become a teacher.

**Cpl. Michelle M. Dickson**  
*Press Chief*

When becoming a new parent, it can seem difficult when to experience the new responsibilities – as babies grow, they begin carrying different behaviors that need to be dealt with. Here, staff of the New Parent Support Program are able and willing to help new parents, whether they are expecting or already have their little youngster. The New Parent Support Program has been in place aboard Marine Corps Base Hawaii since 1994 and offers various classes. "Daddy's Baby Boot Camp," and "Mommy's Basic Training," both prepare expectant parents for labor and delivery, as well as infant care. Another NPSP class called, "Parenting Proudly," is available to parents who have children who range from 2 to 12. This course helps parents with issues such as disciplinary action and child development, said Nancy Tahara, program manager, Marine and Family Services NPSP. "Parents have the most difficult job in the world," said Tahara. "If we can make the job of parenting just a little bit easier, why not do it? The knowledge of parenting doesn't just fall from the sky. We'd like to help teach a few tricks of the trade." The NPSP services are offered to all Marines and to Sailors who are assigned to Marine Corps units, said Tahara. The program also provides home visits for parents

with questions, concerns, or other needs. If the family desires one, a professionally trained home visitor can be assigned to them. The home visitors are registered nurses, pediatric nurse practitioners or social workers. "We will make a home visit to anywhere on the island," said Tahara, a registered nurse. "I think that's what partially makes the program so beneficial. A lot of the military members are so far away from home; they don't have the aunts and grandmothers around them to call for advice at any given time. We are, in a sense, like that because we are available at any time." "I'm a military spouse myself, so I understand a lot of what families go through when raising a child," said Brenda Brown, a registered nurse and home visitor for NPSP. "I've learned from past experience how to deal with certain issues of parenting and I now enjoy helping the families and their children." Brown has been working with NPSP for approximately two years and usually makes two to five house visits during an average day. On request, Marine and Family Services assists with childcare expenses for parents attending the NPSP classes. "The courses don't cost any money, and if the parents need a babysitter while they attend, we completely reimburse them for the cost," said Tahara. "We want to help people and give advice." Anyone interested may stop

by the NPSP office located at Marine and Family Services, Building 216, Room 71, or call 257-8803 from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. "The most enjoyable thing for me is seeing a family in need and then watching the families blossom over time," said Brown. "We have a lot to offer here, including education and camaraderie with the other spouses. It's a wonderful program and a great asset that families can count on. I wish I had it for myself in the past."



Cpl. Jeremy M. Vought

Sergeants Jeskah and Rafael Ortega spend some family time at their K-Bay home. The New Parent Support Program coaches parents on how to deal with their child at the different stages of life.



Hawaii Marine file photo  
Female Marines stand at parade rest during a flagpole ceremony. One of the updates to the women’s uniforms includes larger rank insignia.

# USMC introduces new female uniform items

**Cpl. Michelle M. Dickson**  
*Press Chief*

Ever since women first entered the Marine Corps in 1918, they have been pulling their weight – striving to be looked at as a “Marine” and only as a Marine. As must all Marines, they must be ready to deploy at any time, and they must have the ability to fit properly in their gear. The way they fit into their uniforms is what makes men and women different. The Marine Corps has introduced new uniform items which women are likely to better fit, compared to the larger male sizes. New female boot sizes were introduced in January 2005, and are available for special

order and through some Marine Corps Exchanges. The boot sizes range from four to 11. The female boots are designed to fit the female foot better, reducing foot injuries due to ill-fitting gear, according to Marlee C. Foster, the project officer with Combat Equipment and Support Systems, Infantry Combat Equipmen, Quantico, Va. As far as uniforms go, there are new, larger insignia available for female uniforms. The larger enlisted women’s cloth rank insignia and service

stripes will be the new standard according to Marine Administration Message 230/03. Women are allowed to wear the smaller insignia until the insignia is no longer serviceable, the Marine is promoted, or a new uniform is purchased. According to a Marine Corps Systems Command news release, the Marine Corps has also adopted six female-specific sized blouses and seven specific sized trousers to improve uniform fit and function.

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# Healthcare access FAQ’s

**Press Release**  
*Tripler Army Medical Center*

**Q.** Is there a way to reach a TRICARE provider afterhours?

**A.** Yes, if you are enrolled in TRICARE Prime, you can reach a provider after hours (on evenings, weekends and holidays) to seek medical advice.

Beneficiaries enrolled in Naval Health Clinic Hawaii may call the following numbers:

1. Makalapa Branch Health Clinic – 473-0247, option 4
2. Kaneohe Bay Branch Health Clinic – 257-2131, option 4

Healthcare FAQs is a weekly feature. Please submit your questions to the NAVHLTHCLINIC Hawaii Customer Relations Program Coordinator at the Interactive Customer Evaluation Web site: [http://ice.disa.mil/index.cfm?fa=site&site\\_id=506](http://ice.disa.mil/index.cfm?fa=site&site_id=506). Once you bring up the Web page, click on “Health.” At the bottom of the page, click on “contact the site manager” and type in your question in the “Comments/Suggestions” block and then click on “Submit Suggestions.”



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**Aloha United Way**  
*The end calls for a new beginning*



# ON THE MENU

## AT ANDERSON HALL

<b>Today</b> <i>Lunch</i> Pepper Steak Southern Fried Catfish Potatoes Au Gratin Glazed Carrots Simmered Black-Eyed Peas Sugar Cookies <i>Dinner</i> Roast Turkey Beef Pot Pie Mahed Potatoes Calico Corn Simmered Broccoli Cranberry Sauce Sugar Cookies	<b>Sunday</b> <i>Dinner</i> Barbeque Beef Cubes Baked Turkey and Noodles Steamed Rice Creole Green Beans Ginger Molasses Cookies	Potatoes Fried Cabbage Egg Noodles Peanut Butter Cake w/ Peanut Butter Frosting	Vegetable Stir Fry Corn O’Brien Salad Bar w/Asst’d Dressings Oatmeal Cookies
<b>Saturday</b> <i>Dinner</i> Baked Lasagna Chicken Parmesan Spaghetti Noodles Simmered Peas and Carrots Pizza Slices Garlic Bread Marble Cake w/Chocolate Icing	<b>Monday</b> <i>Dinner</i> Beef Brogul Fresh Baked Cajun Fish Mashed Potatoes Club Spinach Chocolate Chip Cookies	<i>Dinner</i> Turkey Pot Pie Sweet and Sour Pork Steamed Rice Jefferson Noodles Simmered Broccoli Simmered Pinto Beans Turkey Gravy Chow Mein Noodles Salad Bar w/ Asst’d Dressings Peanut Butter Frosting	<i>dinner</i> Steak Smothered w/ Onions Southern Fried Catfish Mashed Potatoes Baked Macoroni and Cheese Southern Style Green Beans Peas and Carrots Asst’d Fresh Fruit Oatmeal Cookies Asst’d Fruit Pie
	<b>Tuesday</b> <i>Lunch</i> Simmered Corned Beef w/ Mustard Sauce Honey Glazed Cornish Hens Parsley Buttered	<b>Wednesday</b> <i>Lunch</i> Pork Adobo Beef Yakisoba Pork Fried Rice	<b>Thursday</b> <i>Lunch</i> Turkey A La King Beef Porcupines French Fried Okra Simmered Mixed Vegetables Marble Cake w/ Frosting

# MARINE MAKEPONO

## HAWAIIAN FOR “MARINE BARGAINS”

### Automobiles

**1997 Geo Tracker**, 82,300 miles, air conditioning, 2-door, convertible, new brakes, good tires, good condition, well maintained. Must sell — moving! Asking \$2,800. Call 721-7721.

**1993 Aerostar**, reliable, 101,000 miles; after-market alarm; power brakes, steering and windows; leaks power steering fluid, \$800. Call 839-5251.

**1999 Mercedes Benz E320**, 5,000 miles, white with gray interior, excellent condition, 13 months left of transferable extended warranty, \$18,000. Call 262-7953.

**1999 Nissan Altima**, automatic, good condition, \$3,200, or best offer. Call 351-5132.

**’05 Volvo S40 2.4i**, silver with black interior, power package, moon roof, automatic stick, 2,400 miles. Asking \$24,000 OBO. Call 254-0565 for more details.

### Furniture

**Solid pine coffee table with two end tables**, 3 months old, in excellent condition. Asking \$150, firm. Call 254-0085.

**27” Sharp television w/entertainment center**, \$120 for both or \$100 for TV & \$25 for entertainment center. Call 254-3830 or 706-764-6164.

**Ashley solid wood, lift-top coffee table**, great condition, \$200; washer and dryer \$150, queen mattress and box spring, \$150; Baby Dreams convertible crib, barely used, \$225’ Alpha Omega 3-in-1 car seat, \$50. Call 808-206-7291.

### For Rent

Studio for rent in Kailua, \$1,200 per month, includes utilities, cable, air conditioning, washer/dryer, kitchenette, new condition. Call James at 225-7199.

*Ads are accepted from active duty and retired military personnel, their family members and MCB Hawaii civil service employees. Ads are free, but should consist of no more than 20 words. Ads will appear in two issues of the Hawaii Marine, on a space available basis. Those interested in advertising must bring a valid DoD-issued ID to the Hawaii Marine office. The deadline for submitting ads*

*to the Hawaii Marine is 4 p.m. the Friday of the week prior to publication. Forms may be filled out Monday through Friday between 7:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. at the MCB Hawaii Public Affairs Office, located in Building 216 aboard Kaneohe Bay. To renew an ad or for more information, call the Hawaii Marine office at 257-8835.*